



General Assembly

Amendment

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LCO No. 8039

HB0668708039HDO

Offered by:

REP. FLEISCHMANN, 18th Dist.

REP. REYNOLDS, 42nd Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6687

File No. 982

Cal. No. 486

**"AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE
EDUCATION STATUTES."**

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. Subsection (b) of section 10-16p of the general statutes is
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
5 *1, 2009*):

6 (b) The Department of Education shall be the lead agency for school
7 readiness. For purposes of this section and section 10-16u, school
8 readiness program providers eligible for funding from the Department
9 of Education shall include local and regional boards of education,
10 regional educational service centers, family resource centers and
11 providers of child day care centers, as defined in section 19a-77, Head
12 Start programs, preschool programs and other programs that meet
13 such standards established by the Commissioner of Education. The
14 department shall establish standards for school readiness programs.

15 The standards may include, but need not be limited to, guidelines for
16 staff-child interactions, curriculum content, including preliteracy
17 development, lesson plans, parent involvement, staff qualifications
18 and training, transition to school and administration. The department
19 shall develop age-appropriate developmental skills and goals for
20 children attending such programs. The commissioner, in consultation
21 with the Commissioners of Higher Education and Social Services and
22 other appropriate entities, shall develop a continuing education
23 training program for the staff of school readiness programs. For
24 purposes of this section, prior to July 1, 2015, "staff qualifications"
25 means there is in each classroom an individual who has at least the
26 following: (1) A childhood development associate credential [issued
27 by] or an equivalent credential issued by an organization approved by
28 the Commissioner of Education, and [nine credits or more, and on and
29 after July 1, 2005,] twelve credits or more, in early childhood education
30 or child development, as determined by the Commissioner of
31 Education, after consultation with the Commissioners of Higher
32 Education and Social Services, from an institution of higher education
33 accredited by the Board of Governors of Higher Education or
34 regionally accredited; (2) an associate's degree with [nine credits or
35 more, and on and after July 1, 2005,] twelve credits or more, in early
36 childhood education or child development, as determined by the
37 Commissioner of Education, after consultation with the
38 Commissioners of Higher Education and Social Services, from such an
39 institution; (3) a four-year degree with [nine credits or more, and on
40 and after July 1, 2005,] twelve credits or more, in early childhood
41 education or child development, as determined by the Commissioner
42 of Education, after consultation with the Commissioners of Higher
43 Education and Social Services, from such an institution; or (4)
44 certification pursuant to section 10-145b with an endorsement in early
45 childhood education, [or special education,] and on and after July 1,
46 2015, "staff qualifications" means [there is in each classroom an
47 individual who has at least the following: (A) A bachelor's degree in
48 early childhood education or childhood development, or in a related
49 field approved by the Commissioner of Education from an institution

50 of higher education accredited by the Board of Governors of Higher
51 Education or regionally accredited; or (B) certification pursuant to
52 section 10-145b with an endorsement in early childhood education or
53 special education] for each program accepting school readiness funds
54 that (A) at least fifty per cent of its teachers (i) hold certification
55 pursuant to section 10-145b with an endorsement in early childhood
56 education, or (ii) hold a bachelor's degree from an institution of higher
57 education accredited by the Board of Governors of Higher Education
58 or regionally accredited, (B) the remaining teachers hold an associate
59 degree from an institution of higher education accredited by the Board
60 of Governors of Higher Education or regionally accredited, and (C) all
61 such teachers described in subparagraph (A)(ii) and subparagraph (B)
62 of this subdivision have completed a program of study approved by
63 the Commissioners of Education and Higher Education."